

Serial No. **10/743,349**

Docket No. **INTEL-0064**

Reply to Office Action dated August 21, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached drawing includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. In Fig. 1, the "Integrated Circuit" box has been labeled "50" and the element "56" has been labeled as "Receiver" as shown in the attached Annotated Sheet.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17, 19-20, 22-24 and 26-36 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, FIG. 1 and claims 3-4, 10-11, 17, 20, 22, 26 and 28 are amended, claim 16 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claim 36 is added. Various amendments are made to the claims for clarity and are unrelated to issues of patentability.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication that claims 1-7, 9-10 and 31-34 are allowed and that claims 16 and 17 contain allowable subject matter. However, as set forth below, all claims are believed to contain allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 11-15, 20, 22-24, 26-28, 30 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent 6,563,373 to Shou et al. (hereafter Shou). The Office Action also rejects claims 19 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shou in view of U.S. Patent 5,648,735 to Bowers et al. (hereafter Bowers). The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that Shou is not prior art to the present application under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

By this Amendment, features of allowable dependent claim 16 are incorporated into independent claim 11. Shou and Bowers do not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 11. Thus, independent claim 11 defines patentable subject matter.

Additionally, independent claim 20 is amended to recite that each stage including a separate voltage-to-current conversion and a separate current multiplication. Shou and

Bowers do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 20. Thus, independent claim 20 defines patentable subject matter.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of independent claims 1, 11, 20 and 31 defines patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references. For example, dependent claim 36 recites each stage including a separate one of a plurality of voltage-to-current converters and a separate one of a plurality of current multipliers. The applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features. Thus, dependent claim 36 defines patentable subject matter at least for this additional reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-7, 9-15, 17, 19-20, 22-24 and 26-36 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

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concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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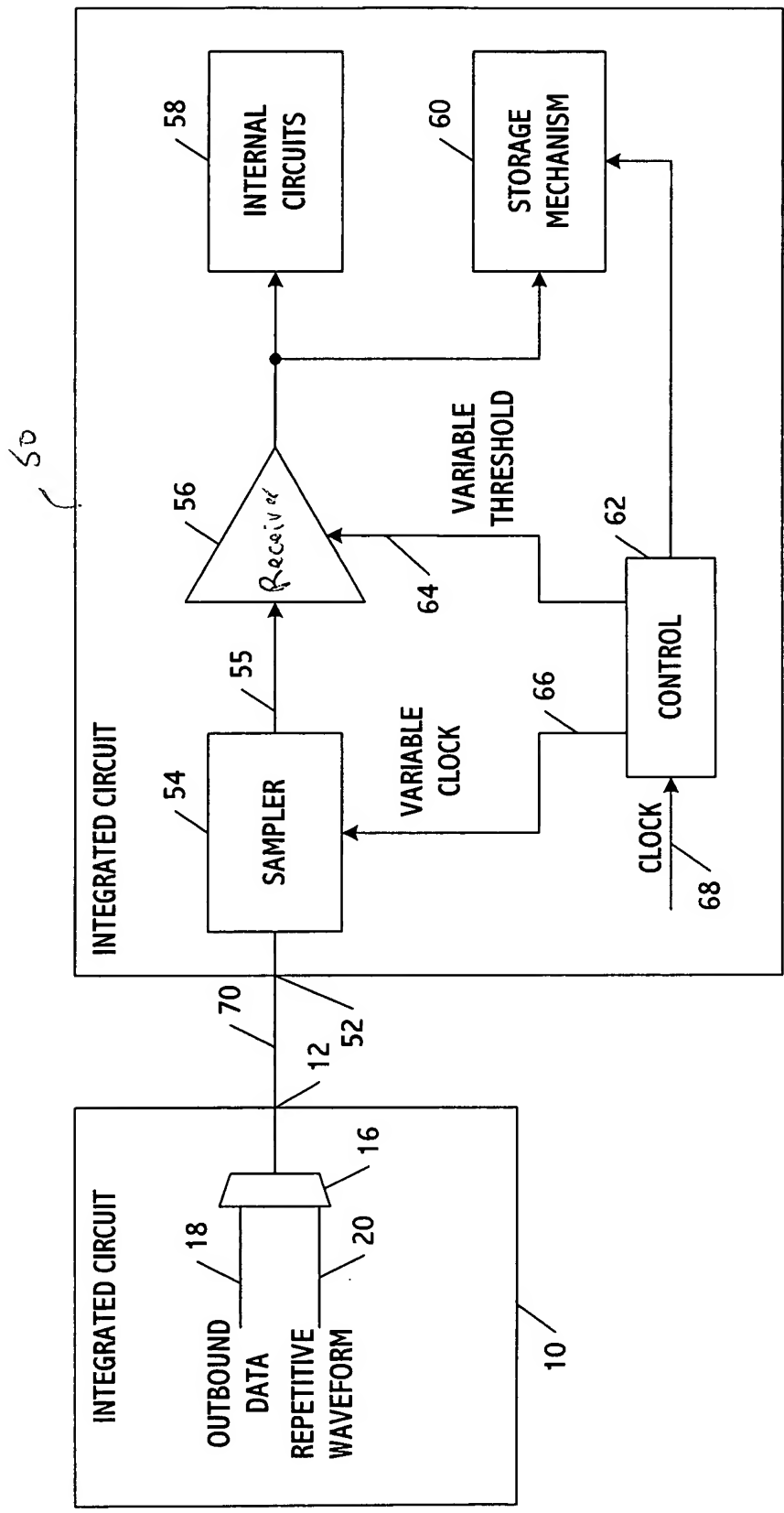


FIG. 1